Claims

1. Method for forming glossy and matt surface zones (22, 24) when printing a can body (18) in a production line (10) comprising:

- a priming varnishing machine (12) for applying a priming layer (26) to the can body,
- a printing machine (14) for applying printing colours (30) including at least one glossy colour (28) to the can body (18) provided with the priming layer,
- and a finish varnishing machine (16) for applying a finish varnish (32) to the can body (18) provided with the priming layer and printed,

method characterized in that a matt varnish is applied as finish varnish (32), after drying of the inks, by means of a flexographic printing plate controlled by dot-for-dot marking or by means of a cylinder (44) controlled by dot-for-dot marking, to the zones of the can body (18) designed to give a matt surface (24).

2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the zones that are to form a glossy surface (22) are printed with a glossy printing colour (28).

3. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the glossy surface zones (22) are formed by a glossy can surface (20).

4. Method according to claim 3, characterized in that the can surface (20) is rendered glossy by brush smoothing.

5. Method according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the can body (18) is manufactured from aluminium or from an aluminium alloy or from tinplate.

6. Method according to any one of the claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the priming varnishing machine (12) and the finish varnishing machine (16) are equipped with a flexographic printing unit and with an inking distributing mechanism (34).

7. Application of the method according to any one of the claims 1 to 6 to form a "Spot-Varnish" effect on the surface of the can body (20).